

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
**Western District of North Carolina**

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

v.

**MICHAEL SHANE HOOTS**

- ) **JUDGMENT IN A CRIMINAL CASE**
- ) (For Offenses Committed On or After November 1, 1987)
- )
- )
- ) Case Number: DNCW115CR000029-001
- ) USM Number: 30012-058
- )
- ) Christopher A. Connelly
- ) Defendant's Attorney

**THE DEFENDANT:**

- Pleaded guilty to count 1.
- Pleaded nolo contendere to count(s) which was accepted by the court.
- Was found guilty on count(s) after a plea of not guilty.

**ACCORDINGLY**, the court has adjudicated that the defendant is guilty of the following offense:

Title and Section	Nature of Offense	Date Offense Concluded	Counts
18 U.S.C. § 2252A(a)(5)(B)	Knowingly Possess Material Containing Images of Child Porn	11/24/2014	1

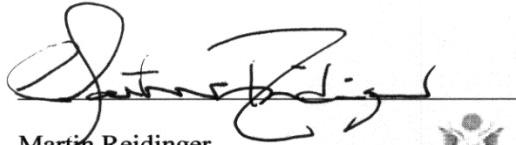
The Defendant is sentenced as provided in pages 2 through 7 of this judgment. The sentence is imposed pursuant to the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984, United States v. Booker, 125 S.Ct. 738 (2005), and 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a).

- The defendant has been found not guilty on count(s).
- Count(s) (is)(are) dismissed on the motion of the United States.

**IT IS ORDERED** that the Defendant shall notify the United States Attorney for this district within 30 days of any change of name, residence, or mailing address until all fines, restitution, costs, and special assessments imposed by this judgment are fully paid. If ordered to pay monetary penalties, the defendant shall notify the court and United States attorney of any material change in the defendant's economic circumstances.

Date of Imposition of Sentence: 12/10/2015

Signed: December 21, 2015



Martin Reidinger  
 United States District Judge



Defendant: Michael Shane Hoots  
Case Number: DNCW115CR000029-001

Judgment- Page **2** of 7**IMPRISONMENT**

The defendant is hereby committed to the custody of the United States Bureau of Prisons to be imprisoned for a term of FORTY (40) MONTHS.

- The Court makes the following recommendations to the Bureau of Prisons:
- Participation in the Federal Inmate Financial Responsibility Program.
  - Participation in sex offender treatment programs, if eligible.
  - Placed in a facility as close to Lake Lure, North Carolina, as possible, considering his security classification.
- The Defendant is remanded to the custody of the United States Marshal.
- The Defendant shall surrender to the United States Marshal for this District:
- As notified by the United States Marshal.
  - At \_ on \_.
- The Defendant shall surrender for service of sentence at the institution designated by the Bureau of Prisons:
- As notified by the United States Marshal.
  - Before 2 p.m. on \_.
  - As notified by the Probation Office.

**RETURN**

I have executed this Judgment as follows:

---

---

---

---

Defendant delivered on \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, with a certified copy of this Judgment.

---

\_\_\_\_\_  
United States Marshal

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Marshal

Defendant: Michael Shane Hoots  
 Case Number: DNCW115CR000029-001

Judgment- Page 3 of 7

## SUPERVISED RELEASE

Upon release from imprisonment, the defendant shall be on supervised release for a term of LIFE.

- The condition for mandatory drug testing is suspended based on the court's determination that the defendant poses a low risk of future substance abuse.

## STANDARD CONDITIONS OF SUPERVISION

The defendant shall comply with the standard conditions that have been adopted by this court and any additional conditions ordered.

1. The defendant shall not commit another federal, state, or local crime.
2. The defendant shall refrain from possessing a firearm, destructive device, or other dangerous weapon.
3. The defendant shall pay any financial obligation imposed by this judgment remaining unpaid as of the commencement of the sentence of probation or the term of supervised release on a schedule to be established by the Court.
4. The defendant shall provide access to any personal or business financial information as requested by the probation officer.
5. The defendant shall not acquire any new lines of credit unless authorized to do so in advance by the probation officer.
6. The defendant shall not leave the Western District of North Carolina without the permission of the Court or probation officer.
7. The defendant shall report to the probation officer in a manner and frequency directed by the court or probation officer.
8. A defendant on supervised release shall report in person to the probation officer in the district to which he or she is released within 72 hours of release from custody of the Bureau of Prisons.
9. The defendant shall answer truthfully all inquiries by the probation officer and follow the instructions of the probation officer.
10. The defendant shall support his or her dependents and meet other family responsibilities.
11. The defendant shall work regularly at a lawful occupation unless excused by the probation officer for schooling, training, or other activities authorized by the probation officer.
12. The defendant shall notify the probation officer within 72 hours of any change in residence or employment.
13. The defendant shall refrain from excessive use of alcohol and shall not unlawfully purchase, possess, use, distribute or administer any narcotic or other controlled substance, or any paraphernalia related to such substances, except as duly prescribed by a licensed physician.
14. The defendant shall participate in a program of testing and treatment or both for substance abuse if directed to do so by the probation officer, until such time as the defendant is released from the program by the probation officer; provided, however, that defendant shall submit to a drug test within 15 days of release on probation or supervised release and at least two periodic drug tests thereafter for use of any controlled substance, subject to the provisions of 18:3563(a)(5) or 18:3583(d), respectively; The defendant shall refrain from obstructing or attempting to obstruct or tamper, in any fashion, with the efficiency and accuracy of any prohibited substance testing or monitoring which is (are) required as a condition of supervision.
15. The defendant shall not frequent places where controlled substances are illegally sold, used, distributed, or administered.
16. The defendant shall not associate with any persons engaged in criminal activity, and shall not associate with any person convicted of a felony unless granted permission to do so by the probation officer.
17. The defendant shall submit his person, residence, office, vehicle and/or any computer system including computer data storage media, or any electronic device capable of storing, retrieving, and/or accessing data to which they have access or control, to a search, from time to time, conducted by any U.S. Probation Officer and such other law enforcement personnel as the probation officer may deem advisable, without a warrant. The defendant shall warn other residents or occupants that such premises or vehicle may be subject to searches pursuant to this condition.
18. The defendant shall permit a probation officer to visit him or her at any time at home or elsewhere and shall permit confiscation of any contraband observed by the probation officer.
19. The defendant shall notify the probation officer within 72 hours of defendant's being arrested or questioned by a law enforcement officer.
20. The defendant shall not enter into any agreement to act as an informer or a special agent of a law enforcement agency without the permission of the Court.
21. As directed by the probation officer, the defendant shall notify third parties of risks that may be occasioned by the defendant's criminal record or personal history or characteristics, and shall permit the probation officer to make such notifications and to confirm the defendant's compliance with such notification requirement.
22. If the instant offense was committed on or after 4/24/96, the defendant shall notify the probation officer of any material changes in defendant's economic circumstances which may affect the defendant's ability to pay any monetary penalty.
23. If home confinement (home detention, home incarceration or curfew) is included you may be required to pay all or part of the cost of the electronic monitoring or other location verification system program based upon your ability to pay as determined by the probation officer.
24. The defendant shall cooperate in the collection of DNA as directed by the probation officer.
25. The defendant shall participate in transitional support services under the guidance and supervision of the U.S. Probation Officer. The defendant shall remain in the services until satisfactorily discharged by the service provider and/or with the approval of the U.S. Probation Officer.

## ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS:

26. Throughout the period of supervision the probation officer shall monitor the defendant's economic circumstances and shall report to the court, with recommendations as warranted, any material changes that affect the defendant's ability to pay any court-ordered penalties.

Defendant: Michael Shane Hoots  
Case Number: DNCW115CR000029-001

Judgment- Page 4 of 7

## SEX OFFENDER

### STANDARD CONDITIONS OF SUPERVISION

The defendant shall comply with the standard conditions that have been adopted by this court and any additional conditions ordered.

1. The defendant shall have no direct or indirect contact, at any time, for any reason with the victim(s), the victim's family, or affected parties in this matter unless provided with specific written authorization to do so in advance by the U.S. Probation Officer.
2. The defendant shall submit to a psycho-sexual evaluation by a qualified mental health professional experienced in evaluating and managing sexual offenders as approved by the U.S. Probation Officer. The defendant shall complete the treatment recommendations and abide by all of the rules, requirements, and conditions of the program until discharged. The defendant shall take all medications as prescribed.
3. The defendant shall submit to risk assessments, psychological and physiological testing, which may include, but is not limited to a polygraph examination and/or Computer Voice Stress Analyzer (CVSA), or other specific tests to monitor the defendant's compliance with supervised release and treatment conditions, at the direction of the U.S. Probation Officer.
4. The defendant's residence and employment shall be approved by the U.S. Probation Officer. Any proposed change in residence or employment must be provided to the U.S. Probation Officer at least 10 days prior to the change and pre-approved before the change may take place.
5. The defendant shall not possess any materials depicting and/or describing "child pornography" and/or "simulated child pornography" as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 2256, nor shall the defendant enter any location where such materials can be accessed, obtained or viewed, including pictures, photographs, books, writings, drawings, videos, or video games
6. The defendant shall comply with the requirements of the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (42 U.S.C. § 16901, et seq.) as directed by the probation officer, the Bureau of Prisons, or any state sex offender registration agency in which the defendant resides, works, is a student, or was convicted of a qualifying offense..

### ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS:

7. The defendant shall not associate or have verbal, written, telephonic, or electronic communications with any person under the age of eighteen (18) except: 1) in the presence of the parent or legal guardian of said minor; 2) on the condition that the defendant notifies the parent or legal guardian of their conviction or prior history, and 3) has written approval from the U.S. Probation Officer. This provision does not encompass persons under the age of eighteen (18), such as waiters, cashiers, ticket vendors, etc., with whom the defendant must deal with, in order to obtain ordinary and usual commercial services.
8. The defendant shall not loiter within 100 feet of any parks, school property, playgrounds, arcades, amusement parks, day-care centers, swimming pools, community recreation fields, zoos, youth centers, video arcades, carnivals, circuses or other places primarily used or can reasonably be expected to be used by children under the age of eighteen (18), without prior written permission of the U.S. Probation Officer.
9. The defendant shall not use, purchase, possess, procure, or otherwise obtain any computer or electronic device that can be linked to any computer networks, bulletin boards, internet, internet service providers, or exchange formats involving computers unless approved by the U.S. Probation Officer. Such computers, computer hardware or software is subject to warrantless searches and/or seizures by the U.S. Probation Office.
10. The defendant shall allow the U. S. Probation Officer, or other designee, to install software designed to monitor computer activities on any computer the defendant is authorized to use. This may include, but is not limited to, software that may record any and all activity on computers the defendant may use, including the capture of keystrokes, application information, internet use history, email correspondence, and chat conversations. The defendant shall pay any costs related to the monitoring of computer usage.
11. The defendant shall not use or have installed any programs specifically and solely designed to encrypt data, files folders, or volumes of any media. The defendant shall, upon request, immediately provide the probation officer with any and all passwords required to access data compressed or encrypted for storage by any software.
12. The defendant shall provide a complete record of all passwords, internet service providers, email addresses, email accounts, screen names, etc. (past and present) to the probation officer and shall not make any changes without the prior approval of the U. S. Probation Officer.
13. The defendant shall not use, possess, or control any bootable linux or counter forensic tools.
14. The defendant shall not have any social networking accounts without the approval of the U. S. Probation Officer.
15. During the period of probation or supervised release, the defendant shall notify all employers, family, friends, and others with whom they have regular contact of their conviction and/or history as a sex offender and that the defendant is being supervised by a U.S. Probation Officer.
16. The defendant shall not be employed in any position or participate as a volunteer in any activity that involves direct or indirect contact with children under the age of eighteen (18), without written permission from the U.S. Probation Officer. Under no circumstances may the defendant be engaged in a position that involves being in a position of trust or authority over any person under the age of eighteen (18).

Defendant: Michael Shane Hoots  
Case Number: DNCW115CR000029-001

Judgment- Page **5** of 7

### **CRIMINAL MONETARY PENALTIES**

The defendant shall pay the following total criminal monetary penalties in accordance with the Schedule of Payments.

<b>ASSESSMENT</b>	<b>FINE</b>	<b>RESTITUTION</b>
\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

The determination of restitution is deferred until. An *Amended Judgment in a Criminal Case* (AO 245C) will be entered after such determination.

### **FINE**

The defendant shall pay interest on any fine or restitution of more than \$2,500.00, unless the fine or restitution is paid in full before the fifteenth day after the date of judgment, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3612(f). All of the payment options on the Schedule of Payments may be subject to penalties for default and delinquency pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3612(g).

- The court has determined that the defendant does not have the ability to pay interest and it is ordered that:
- The interest requirement is waived.
- The interest requirement is modified as follows:

### **COURT APPOINTED COUNSEL FEES**

- The defendant shall pay court appointed counsel fees.
- The defendant shall pay \$0.00 towards court appointed fees.

Defendant: Michael Shane Hoots  
Case Number: DNCW115CR000029-001

Judgment- Page **6** of **7**

## SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

Having assessed the defendant's ability to pay, payment of the total criminal monetary penalties shall be due as follows:

- A  Lump sum payment of \$0.00 due immediately, balance due
  - Not later than \_\_\_\_\_
  - In accordance  (C),  (D) below; or
- B  Payment to begin immediately (may be combined with  (C),  (D) below); or
- C  Payment in equal Monthly (E.g. weekly, monthly, quarterly) installments of \$50.00 to commence 60 (E.g. 30 or 60) days after the date of this judgment; or
- D  Payment in equal Monthly (E.g. weekly, monthly, quarterly) installments of \$50.00 to commence 60 (E.g. 30 or 60) days after release from imprisonment to a term of supervision. In the event the entire amount of criminal monetary penalties imposed is not paid prior to the commencement of supervision, the U.S. Probation Officer shall pursue collection of the amount due, and may request the court to establish or modify a payment schedule if appropriate 18 U.S.C. § 3572.

Special instructions regarding the payment of criminal monetary penalties:

- The defendant shall pay the cost of prosecution.
- The defendant shall pay the following court costs:
- The defendant shall forfeit the defendant's interest in the following property to the United States as set forth in the Consent Order [Doc. 16] entered 5/15/2015:

One Samsung laptop computer, bearing serial number JJ3F98FD9AOADPA.

Unless the court has expressly ordered otherwise in the special instructions above, if this judgment imposes a period of imprisonment payment of criminal monetary penalties shall be due during the period of imprisonment. All criminal monetary penalty payments are to be made to the United States District Court Clerk, 401 West Trade Street, Room 210, Charlotte, NC 28202, except those payments made through the Bureau of Prisons' Inmate Financial Responsibility Program. All criminal monetary penalty payments are to be made as directed by the court.

Payments shall be applied in the following order: (1) assessment, (2) restitution principal, (3) restitution interest, (4) fine principal, (5) fine interest, (6) community restitution, (7) penalties, and (8) costs, including cost of prosecution and court costs.

Defendant: Michael Shane Hoots  
Case Number: DNCW115CR000029-001

Judgment- Page 7 of 7

#### STATEMENT OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I understand that my term of supervision is for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months, commencing on \_\_\_\_\_.

Upon a finding of a violation of probation or supervised release, I understand that the court may (1) revoke supervision, (2) extend the term of supervision, and/or (3) modify the conditions of supervision.

I understand that revocation of probation and supervised release is mandatory for possession of a controlled substance, possession of a firearm and/or refusal to comply with drug testing.

These conditions have been read to me. I fully understand the conditions and have been provided a copy of them.

(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Defendant

(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
U.S. Probation Office/Designated Witness